ARTICLES,

LAWS, & RULES,

OF THE

Glaſs-Makers'

FRIENDLY SOCIETY,

HELD AT THE HOUSE OF

Mr WILLIAM WILSON,

SIGN OF THE SUN, IN THE BROAD-CHARE,

Newcaſtle upon Tyne.

Begun November 15, 1755.

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ARTICLES,

ARTICLES, &c.

I.

ALL and every perſon and perſons who originally, or ſhall hereafter become, members of this ſociety, ſhall in all particulars, conform and be obedient to the articles hereby preſcribed.

II.

That a ſtrong box ſhall forthwith be provided, at the expence of the ſociety, wherein ſhall be depoſited the contributions to be made towards raiſing a fund, for the ſeveral charitable uſes hereafter mentioned; as alſo the books, papers, writings, and accounts belonging to the ſaid ſociety; and the ſame ſhall be lodged at the houſe of Mr *William Wilſon*, *ſign of the Sun* in the *Broad-chare*, *Newcaſtle upon Tyne*: and the ſaid Mr *William Wilſon* giving ſecurity to the good liking of the majority of the ſaid ſociety, for the ſafe keeping thereof, when and as often as he ſhall be thereunto requeſted.

III.

Any perſon who is admitted a member of this ſociety, ſhall, at his entrance, pay two ſhillings and nine-pence but no one can be accepted who is above the age of thirty-five years,

years, unleſs by the majority of the company. And if a ſatisfactory certificate of the good qualities or character of any member be required, the ſame muſt be produced within a quarter of a year after it is deſired, otherwiſe they are to forfeit whatever money they have paid into the box, and be excluded.

IV.

That every member of this ſociety ſhall contribute for the firſt year, one ſhilling and fourpence towards the public fund, with two-pence to be ſpent where the company's box is kept, every Saturday ſix-weeks, or ſend the ſame to the ſtewards, or maſter of the houſe where the box is kept, before the hour that is appointed by the ſtewards for the company to meet; and in caſe of neglect, ſhall forfeit two-pence for every ſuch neglect: And if any member ſhall omit to bring or ſend his money to the maſter of the houſe or ſtewards, upon the ſix-weeks day following, at the hour of meeting, ſhall forfeit two-pence; the ſecond ſix weeks, ſix-pence; and the third excluded; if not paid before eight o'clock. And every member of this ſociety, who ſhall have any allowance out of the public fund, ſhall notwithſtanding pay their weekly contributions.

V.

All the members of this ſociety ſhall, upon the firſt *Saturday* following *Michaelmas-Day*, in every year, meet at the houſe of Mr *William Wilſon*, or ſuch other place where the company's

pany's box ſhall be kept, where a feaſt ſhall be prepared ; and for defraying ſuch expence, each member ſhall pay one ſhilling and four-pence ; that is, one ſhilling for meat, and four-pence for drink, with all the fines, to go into the fund. And at ten o'clock of the forenoon of the ſame day, every member to be there ready to anſwer to his name, when called upon by the clerk, in order to chuſe two of the members of the ſociety to be ſtewards for the half-year enſuing, otherwiſe every abſentée ſhall pay ſixpence for his abſence without excuſe, the firſt ſix-weeks meeting after the ſaid election ; and, in caſe any perſon refuſe to ſtand ſteward as his turn comes according to the liſt, to be fined eighteen-pence, and to be paid the next ſix weeks following, or be excluded : and then choice ſhall be made in like manner of one or two other members, as the caſe ſhall require, under the ſame penalty, until two members be choſen, who ſhall undertake the ſaid office, and faithfully promiſe to execute their duty therein, according to the purpoſe and meaning of theſe articles ; and if any member ſays he will ſtand ſteward, and refuſes to ſtand afterwards, ſhall be fined two ſhillings and ſixpence, beſides the eighteen-pence as above. And every ſteward, for the time being, ſhall be allowed one ſhilling each every ſix weeks for their trouble of meeting upon box buſineſs, to be taken out of the drink-money.

VI.

All ſtewards, for the time being, ſhall duly attend the ordinary meetings of the ſaid ſociety, every ſix weeks, at the hour appointed by the ſtewards, and ſhall cauſe the roll of the members names to be called over, and receive their contributions; and when the ſame ſhall be collected, ſhall cauſe them to be fairly counted over, in the preſence of the maſter of the houſe where the box is kept, if he may be had, or otherwiſe in the preſence of two or more members of the ſociety, and then depoſit the ſum collected in the company's box, whereon ſhall be put three locks, to each whereof ſhall be a key, and two of the ſaid keys ſhall be kept by the ſtewards for the time being, and the third by the maſter of the houſe where the box is kept; and if the ſtewards, or either of them neglect to appear, or get one or two ſufficient perſons, being members of the ſociety, for whom they will be anſwerable, to officiate in their ſtead, they ſhall, for every ſuch offence, forfeit ſixpence; and if they do not ſend their key alſo, ſhall forfeit ſixpence; and the ſtewards ſhall half-yearly, on the firſt *Saturday* after *Michaelmas-day*, account to their ſucceſſors in the ſaid office, or to ſuch other perſons, being members of the ſaid ſociety, whom the majority then aſſembled ſhall appoint to account and adjuſt the ſame. The half-yearly meeting to be held at four o'clock in the afternoon.

VII.

VII.

The ſtewards, or one of them, upon having notice given of a member craving an allowance out of the public ſtock, ſhall, with all convenient ſpeed, viſit him, and one of the twelve to viſit him by turns, once at leaſt every three days, and ſhall pay the perſon ſo appointed to viſit ſuch ſick member, his weekly allowance, to the intent they, or the one of them, pay him the ſame upon their making ſuch viſits; the ſtewards, or members by them appointed, neglecting their duty herein, and being complained of to the ſociety, at any of the meetings, ſhall forfeit ſuch ſum as the majority of the company then aſſembled ſhall aſſeſs them to, not exceeding ten ſhillings, and ſhall pay the ſame into the public ſtock, or *ipſo facto* excluded.

VIII.

If any member die without ſignifying to the ſtewards to whom the ſum he hath a right to diſpoſe of, by virtue of theſe articles, or making an appointment in writing, under his hand, ſufficiently atteſted in ſuch caſe, the ſame ſhall be paid to the perſon by law entitled thereunto after his death, but not ſo as to be ſubject to the payment of the debts of the deceaſed, or to the adminiſtration of the creditor; only the ſame being intended as a ſubſiſtence and proviſion for the widow or children, or other nigh relation of the deceaſed.

IX.

IX.

That a member dying after he has been twelve months admitted, there ſhall be paid towards his funeral expences three pounds, and to the widow, or relation whom he ſhall appoint, four pounds legacy; but, in caſe he has not nominated nor appointed one, then the ſaid ſum to be diſpoſed of as it is expreſſed in the eighth article; and each member to contribute ſixpence to defray the expence of the funeral of the deceaſed brother, wife or widow.

X.

That when a member's wife dies, he ſhall receive three pounds to bury her, which ſhall be paid him thus: Each member ſhall contribute ſixpence, and if there be any overplus, it ſhall go to the ſtock.

XI.

No perſon ſhall, for the ſpace of twelve months after his admittance into this ſociety, have any allowance out of the public ſtock, on any account whatſoever, except three pounds for his funeral expences; and if any perſon having been twelve months admitted into this ſociety, ſhall afterwards be ſick or lame, or have any bodily hurt, misfortune, or impediment, whereby he is rendered incapable of following his employment, or to obtain a maintenance by his work or labour, he ſhall, on making the ſame known, as herein-after is directed, have an allowance of ſix ſhillings per

per week for twelve pounds, and then reduced to two ſhillings and ſixpence per week for his maintenance, to be paid him by the ſtewards, out of the public ſtock, ſo long as he ſhall be under ſuch incapacity; or one ſhilling and ſixpence per week, and endeavour for what he legally can, not exceeding five ſhillings per week.

XII.

When any ſuch member ſhall happen to be incapacitated as aforeſaid, and claims an allowance out of the public ſtock, he ſhall forthwith give notice thereof to the ſtewards for the time being; but his allowance ſhall not commence till the ſame day ſe'nnight after notice given. If any member or members ſhall be found or proved to be out of his houſe at the time he has his benefit after eight o'clock from *Michaelmas* until *Lady-Day*, and after nine from *Lady-Day* till *Michaelmas*, ſhall be excluded this ſociety, and never be re-admitted; and if any brother knows of another brother receiving his money unworthily, and does not acquaint the company with it immediately, he is to be fined two ſhillings and ſixpence.

XIII.

That when any member receives any benefit out of the fund, he is to ſend an account to the company of what money he hath received from the ſtewards by any of the members the firſt ſix weeks following, or be fined ſixpence;

ſixpence; and when any member is ſick or lame, and hath the allowance out of the company's fund, finds himſelf in a way of recovery, may deſire of the ſtewards to make a day's trial; and if he finds that he is not able to follow his employ, he is to acquaint the ſtewards, or them that are appointed that day or the day following, or be fined five ſhillings.

XIV.

It is agreed by the company, that the beadle is to have from *Michaelmas* to *Lady-Day*, warning by eight o'clock in the morning the day before, in order to bid to the funeral of a deceaſed brother; and from *Lady-day* to *Michaelmas* to have warning before twelve o'clock, that all members may have notice five hours before the funeral; and if he gets lawful warning, and neglects bidding any of the brothers, he is to pay their fine, or be excluded. Every member living within one mile of the club-room to be liable to all fines for funerals, &c.

XV.

That the clerk ſhall, at all meetings, write in the company's book, all the proper tranſactions of the ſaid ſociety; he ſhall, from time to time, keep and produce, at all meetings, true accounts of money received and laid out; he ſhall, at all meetings and funerals, call over the liſt, and mark down ſuch as are inexcuſable, ſhort, or abſent; and ſuch fines and

and informations as are regularly given in to him, and for every neglect of his office, he is to be fined ſixpence; and that his ſalary for ſo doing ſhall be one pound ten ſhillings for the year.

XVI.

That at all meetings, the ſtewards for the time being ſhall have power to command ſilence, and any member refuſing to obey the ſame, ſhall forfeit to the public fund ſixpence; and for the more ſpeedy diſpatch of buſineſs relating to this ſociety, it is agreed by the ſaid ſociety, that a committee of thirteen men ſhall be annually appointed by the clerk (or who the ſociety ſhall think proper) he and the ſtewards included in that number, who ſhall decide and determine all affairs and debates whatever, relating to the ſaid ſociety; but if any other member, who is not in the committee, hath any thing of conſequence to offer, he ſhall, by riſing from his ſeat, notify it to the ſtewards, who having commanded ſilence, he may then declare his ſentiments; but, in caſe two or more ſpeak together, each one but the firſt ſpeaker to forfeit ſixpence: If the ſociety's reckoning exceeds the allotted dividends, the ſtewards ſhall pay the overplus; therefore, if any member calls for any liquor, or tobacco, without the ſtewards' leave, ſuch member ſhall pay for it; and if any member conveys any liquor out of the club-room belonging to the company, at any of their meetings, he ſhall be fined one ſhilling.

XVII.

XVII.

Perſons that are infamous, of ill character, quarrelſome, or diſorderly, ſhall not be admitted into this ſociety, nor ſhall any perſon be admitted without the conſent of the majority; if any member, being charged with theft, or any other heinous crime, does not ſufficiently vindicate himſelf from ſuch accuſation, to their ſatisfaction, he ſhall be excluded the ſociety, and rendered incapable of re-admittance; that if any fight and get themſelves maimed or rendered incapable of working, or through drunkenneſs, having ſufficient proof, he, or they, ſhall have no benefit.

XVIII.

That if any member, or members, at any of the ſix-weeks meetings, do not keep his, or their ſeat, or ſeats, and ſilence when commanded by the ſtewards, or clerk, ſhall, for every ſuch offence, forfeit threepence. If any member ſhall, at any meeting of the ſociety, come drunk into the room, or place, where the ſaid ſociety ſhall be aſſembled, he ſhall be fined threepence; but if any member, either in or out of the club-room, ſhall give abuſive language, affront, quarrel with, or otherwiſe miſbehave himſelf to any brother, he ſhall be fined for every ſuch offence ſixpence; and if any member ſtrike at another, either in or out of the club-room, he ſhall forfeit two ſhillings and ſixpence; and if it happens to be in the club-room at any of their meetings, he ſhall,

beſides

beſides paying the fine, be excluded the ſociety for that night; but in caſe any member ſhall, either in or out of the club-room, affront, or abuſe one, or both the ſtewards, he ſhall for every ſuch offence be fined one ſhilling; and if any member ſhall be concerned in drink on any Sunday, he ſhall be fined one ſhilling; and if any member propoſe, or lay a wager in the time of the club, ſhall pay ſixpence: And it is further agreed by this ſociety, that if any member take his Maker's name in vain, curſe, ſwear, or blaſpheme in any manner, he ſhall be fined twopence for every ſuch offence.

XIX.

If any member bring either man, woman, or child, into the meeting room to drink, to pay ſixpence; that if any member offers to fine another, and cannot make his charge good, he ſhall pay the fine whatſoever he was to have paid whom the accuſation was made againſt; that whoever diſcovers any ſecrets to any perſon, excepting a member of the ſaid ſociety, ſhall pay twelvepence; that in caſe any member hath any thing to declare to the ſociety, at any of the ſix-weeks meetings, he is to declare it before the books be carried out of the club-room. or be fined ſixpence, if he ſpeaks of it that night; if the ſtewards do not take care to fine the company according to their deſerts, he, or they, ſhall be fined the ſum of ſixpence; that all fines muſt be paid once a quarter, or otherwiſe be excluded.

XX.

XX.

That every member that receives any money upon the account of a wife that dies, they are to acquaint the ſtewards, that they may give an order to *Mr Wilſon* to pay the ſame; in caſe they neglect to do ſo, every member ſo offending, ſhall pay two ſhillings and ſixpence; that if the ſtewards and *Mr William Wilſon* take any money out of the box clandeſtinely, contrary to the former orders, are to be excluded this ſociety, and never to be re-admitted; and if any new member happen any misfortune before twelve months be expired, and may require ſome charity, that the majority is not to be allowed to take any money out of the box, but it is to be left wholly to every one's diſcretion to give it as they think fit.

XXI.

That when any member of this ſociety ſhall have occaſion to leave the place of his abode, he ſhall acquaint the ſtewards where he is going to; and if he be afflicted, he ſhall have his benefit ſent to him if he ſends a certificate from the miniſter, churchwardens, and overſeers of the pariſh where he is afflicted, and aſſure the ſociety that his affliction is got by no unlawful practice; and what charge of letters or trouble of ſending him his benefit ſhall happen, ſuch ſhall be deducted from his weekly benefit; and if he dies, he ſhall have every thing as nominated in the former articles.

XXII.

XXII.

It is agreed by the company that there is no liquor to be at any of the meetings on the box night or on the head-meeting day, in the time of the company's money ſpending, but only beer or ale, unleſs it be otherwiſe agreed by the company; and whoever calls for any ſpirituous liquor of any kind, to be fined for every ſuch default two ſhillings and ſixpence

XXIII.

No perſon who is a member in any other box, or ſociety, of the like nature, ſhall be admitted this. And if any member of this ſhall enter into any other ſociety, he ſhall be expelled and excluded from all benefits, allowances, and advantages, ariſing or to ariſe from the funds of the ſame; alſo if any member ſhall voluntarily enter into his Majeſty's ſervice either by ſea or land, ſhall be excluded this ſociety.

XXIV.

No Pitman, Collier, Sinker, or Waterman to be admitted this ſociety.—A widow of any deceaſed brother, that remains ſo, and keeps herſelf free from any church ſcandal or diſhoneſty, to be allowed three pounds for her funeral; each member to contribute ſixpence towards all ſuch funerals, if any overplus to be put into the box.

That all the foregoing articles are agreed to and confirmed by the ſociety, and declared and

atteſted

atteſted by us, hereunto ſubſcribing in name of ourſelves and that of all the ſociety, by their approbation, allowance, and order. As witneſs our hands this 5th day of *April*, 1800.

Geo. Bagnall, Clerk. | *Robert Elliot*, *P. Burkinſhaw*, } Stewards.